

## WASHINGTON STATE PATROL TROOPERS ASSOCIATION

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November 29, 2006

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board P.O. Box 40918 Olympia, WA 98504-0918

Dear Mr. Nelsen,

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter we sent to Senator Craig Pridemore, the Chair of the Select Committee on Pension Policy, regarding the dual (LEOFF Plan 2/WSPRS) retirement system membership proposal regarding the use of overtime in the calculation of Average Final Salary.

As you can see we are currently on record opposing this proposal as it relates to WSPRS at this time. It appears that the only cost associated with the proposal will be to the WSPRS members and employer. This added cost, while small, is our primary concern. In addition, it is not clear as to how the proposal will affect active members of the WSPRS and if the change would be worth the cost. Currently non-voluntary overtime is used in the calculation of Average Final Salary for WSPRS members. We are checking if this policy does or does not apply when dual membership with LEOFF Plan 2 service is applied to an active WSPRS member's AFS.

Contribution rates and creating stability within the WSPRS is our number one pension priority. We are asking the SCPP to recommend our rate stabilization bill to the 2007 Legislature. The success of this measure will be directly related to the cost and the employer's ability to pay their share. Every basis point increase in the employer's rate affects the fiscal impact of the bill. Ours is a very small system that is subject to rate fluctuations from slight changes that aren't a factor in larger systems. Our commitment is to preserving the health of the WSPRS while maintaining the contribution rates at a competitive level.

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We are interested in working with the LEOFF Plan 2 Board in developing benefits that are good for all our members. But for now we are focused on rate stabilization and will be opposing any unanticipated rate increases that could impact the chances of success.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Tom Pillow, President

Cc: Rick Jensen, Governmental Affairs